

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed June 8, 2006 has been carefully considered. Within the Office Action Claims 51-57 have been rejected and Claims 30-50 have been allowed. The Applicant has amended Claims 51-57. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Applicant(s) had previously filed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) with the USPTO on February 20, 2004. However, it does not appear that the references cited in the first page of the IDS were considered (References A1-A42). Thus, the Applicant hereby requests acknowledgement of the IDS filed February 20, 2004. A copy of the previously filed IDS is submitted herein along with the present Reply.

The 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph Rejection

Claims 51-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the Applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant has amended Claims 51-57. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of Claims 51-57.

35 USC § 101 Rejection

Claims 51-57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Applicant respectfully traverses; however, to expedite the prosecution of the present application, the Applicant has amended Claims 51-57. Accordingly, Claims 51-57 are in a condition for allowance.

Conclusion

It is believed that this Response places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

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